

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF AGING
September 9, 2013**

COA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Rae Ann Butler	Kitty Devilbiss	Hermine Bernstein		Kate Moss
Ernell Graham	Sue Ramsburg	David Gray, Comm		Ray Brown
Millard Haines	Pat Rosensteel			Ann Holiday
Carol Krimm, Alderman	Carolyn True			Steve Bruns
Louise Lynch				Melanie Cox
Bill Moseley				Dr Joseph Berman
Irene Packer-Halsey				Meg Motter
Mary Rice				
Debra Savageau				
Virginia Skelley				
Dan Yeeles				

- I. **Call to Order** – RaeAnn Butler called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – RaeAnn welcomed all attendees.
Guests were present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table. Ann Holiday introduced herself and gave a brief bio. She is interested in becoming a member of this Commission.
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – The Public Comment section was moved from the end of the agenda to after New Business due to timing of meeting.

IV. Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the July 8, 2013 meeting were approved. All were in favor.

V. Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Gray was not present at today's meeting.

Alderman's Report – Alderman Krimm stated that there is a City election tomorrow and encouraged all city residents who are registered to take the time to vote. There are many good people on the ballot this year.

VI. Mission Moment – Kitty Devilbiss, Community Services Manager – Kitty primarily oversees the four Frederick County Senior Centers and ensures that the centers are providing a variety of programs including nutrition education, disease prevention, and health promotion. She also is responsible for the Meals on Wheels program. She noted that the congregate meal program has declined in recent years. The center coordinators are encouraged to promote programs which may draw more participants into the centers. The Frederick Senior Center recently opened the Friendship Café which has limited hours but is continuing to grow. The MOW and HDM (home delivered meals) needs continue to increase as people are staying in their homes longer. The fitness programs at the centers continue to grow. One new requirement for these programs is the need for evidence based programming. There are a limited number of programs which meet the criteria. There will be an Arthritis Foundation program coming soon called Walk with Ease. This will be something that participants could continue at home after the program ends. There has been an expansion into other cultural communities. The deaf community has been having programs here and there will be some programs offered by and for the Asian community. Irene offered to reach out to the Hispanic population for possible programs at the centers.

VII. Needs Assessment update, Carolyn True
Carolyn reported that Jane and Paula are working on a second draft of the assessment. The assessment will be presented to the BoCC on October 17th. Carolyn encouraged all members of the CoA to try to be in attendance for this presentation at Winchester Hall. Carolyn is unsure what time it will be presented. RaeAnn will email the CoA when/if a more specific time is available. Jane will be at the October meeting to summarize the assessment.

VIII. Elder Expo – RaeAnn Butler – The Elder Expo will be on October 2 from 9a-2pm at the Frederick Fairgrounds. The CoA will be participating again this year. The hope was that information from the Needs Assessment could be distributed at this event. Since that

information has been delayed, an alternate suggestion at the Executive Committee meeting is to participate in the *Share the Bounty* initiative at the CoA table this year. Hermine submitted a press release which suggests that participants attending the event donate a nonperishable food item which would then be delivered to a local food bank. A sign-up sheet was distributed so that members could sign up for a time slot for the CoA table for this event. Sue will email the *Share the Bounty* press release and sign up sheet to members.

CoA Members Update from Directory category review – RaeAnn Butler – Commission members were asked at July's meeting to pick a few topics from the Blue Book to review. It was the expectation that this would give everyone an idea of what services are available and what services are not. The results of these reviews can be considered when establishing goals for the upcoming CoA Strategic Plan.

Today's presentations were prepared by Bill Moseley, Ginny Skelley, Deb Savageau, Ernell Graham, Dan Yeeles, Millard Haines, Mary Rice, and Louise Lynch. Topics covered pertained to energy assistance, home improvement, long term care, outreach, employment, assistive devices, transportation, law enforcement, volunteer services, senior recreation, and healthcare. The remaining presentations will be discussed at next month's meeting.

- IX. Nominating Committee, Millard Haines** – Millard presented information on two possible new candidates. We currently have four openings for commission members. Millard suggested that the televised meetings at Winchester Hall are a good opportunity to stimulate interest in the Commission and perhaps draw in more people to become members. The candidates are Sue Thomson and Ann Holiday and both were interviewed in August. The Nominating Committee put forth a motion to submit both names to the BoCC for membership on this Commission. Dan Yeeles seconded the motion. All were in favor. Millard will notify Joyce Grossnickle of this recommendation.

TSAC, Alderman Krimm – The City did have a hearing as part of taxi cab commission for the voucher program. Local taxi companies were present and able to ask questions regarding the program.

State CoA, Louise Lynch – No report due to time restriction.

Partners in Care, Ernell Graham – No report due to time restriction.

USM, Ginny Skelley – No report due to time restriction.

Adult Public Disabled Review Board, Mary Rice – No report due to time restriction.

Director, Carolyn True – No report due to time restriction.

- X. Public Comments –Dr. Joseph Berman** – Dr. Berman is a former member of the Board of Trustees at Citizen's Care and Rehab and the Montevue facilities. He and other members of the former board are concerned about quality of care at these facilities. Since the Aurora management now reports to the BoCC, there is a concern that there is no qualified assessment or oversight for the care of the residents. The reports that the Board of Trustees received included sentinel events, pressure ulcers, incidents of falls, and transports to the hospital. This information was tracked monthly and specific plans of correction were put in place to rectify the errors. These members are requesting that this Commission advise the BoCC that an oversight committee needs to be in place to address the quality of care in these facilities as the Board of Trustees did in the past.

Melanie Cox – Melanie has a thirty year history with long term care. The issue with CCRC/Montevue is that it is being managed by an outside entity with no oversight. Currently the County still owns these facilities and the Board feels there are still responsibilities for quality oversight. She also asks that this Commission recommend to the BoCC that a group needs to be in place to provide oversight and to ensure Aurora management is meeting expectations.

Sonja Sperlich– Their focus is shifting from publicity and education to fundraising to pay for legal fees accrued due to recent legal activities. There is currently an appeal before the Planning Commission for zoning. There are two other actions that have been filed in Circuit Court. Sonja also reiterated the concern for oversight of quality of care for the residents of these facilities. Aurora does not have a history of quality care in their other facilities.

There was some discussion among the CoA members regarding this request. The former members of the Board of Trustees suggested that a physician and/or other knowledgeable qualified persons be on an oversight committee. They suggested that there are people in the community who would be interested in taking on this responsibility. Dr. Berman suggested that perhaps the BoCC did not expect a delay in the sale and did not foresee the need for this type of specific oversight.

Commission members decided to schedule a sub committee meeting to discuss what action should be taken regarding this request. Any interested CoA members are welcome to attend this meeting. It will be held on Monday, September 16th at 10am at the Dept of Aging.

There was also discussion regarding the next CoA monthly meeting. Next month's meeting will be held on October 7th instead of October 14th.

XI. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

October 2, 2013, Elder Expo, Frederick Fairgrounds

October 7, 2013, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at Frederick Senior Center, 1440 Taney Avenue, Frederick, MD